



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
DIVISION OF FIRE STANDARDS & TRAINING
BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

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**TRAUMA MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 23, 2003
Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy
Concord, New Hampshire

Members Present: John Sutton, MD, Kathy Bizarro, Richard Johnson, MD, Elisabeth Burns, Estelle MacPhail, RN, Clare Wilmot, MD, Patrick Lanzetta, MD, Eileen Corcoran, RN

Guests: Donna York Clark, RN, Bill Brown, Janet Houston, Sharon Phillips, RN

Bureau Staff: Sue Prentiss, EMTP, Clay Odell, EMTP, RN Will Owen, EMTP, Fred von Recklinghausen, EMTP

I. Call to Order

Item 1. The April meeting of the Trauma Medical Review Committee was called to order by Dr. Sutton at 9:30 am on Wednesday April 23, 2003 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy in Concord, NH. Introductions of all attendees was done. Dr. Sutton welcomed Clay Odell, EMTP, RN, CEN, as the new Trauma Coordinator for the NH Bureau of EMS.

II. Acceptance of Minutes

Item 1. February 12, 2003 Minutes. Motion was made by Dr. Sutton to accept the minutes of February 12, 2003 meeting as printed and distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Committee Discussion Items

Item 1. NH Bureau of EMS Update: Sue Prentiss reported that George Patterson has moved to the Education Section of the Bureau. John Clark, NREMT-P, from Warner, NH, has accepted the position as the Trauma Care Documentation Coordinator under the Trauma grant. John will coordinate the Trauma and EMS Information System (TEMSIS) Project with Fred and Clay.

Item 2. Hospital Updates: Clay Odell reported that he and Sue Prentiss have met with representatives of Catholic Medical Center, who have expressed an interest in assignment in the NH Trauma System. Clay also said he plans on meeting on a regular basis with all the hospitals in NH to discuss the NH Trauma System. He will be starting with hospitals that have assignments to get their feedback.

Item 3. TEMSIS: Fred von Recklinghausen reported on the Trauma and Emergency Medical Services Information System (TEMSIS) effort in NH. The goals of TEMSIS are to improve the EMS documentation process in NH and to improve data collection for EMS research. The TEMSIS project and the part-time position are supported by a grant from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). A two-day seminar to begin this planning effort was held in March 4 and 5th. A group of stakeholders representing all side of EMS and the Trauma System participated and agreed to stay on the Committee. A working meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2003.

Item 4. EMS-C Project at Dartmouth Medical School: Janet Houston reported that her office is currently working on producing a resource manual for rural hospitals to use to assist in the development of a Trauma Program, with emphasis on Trauma Care Quality Improvement (QI). Janet said she hoped the TMRC would be willing to review the document prior to publication.

Item 5. Legislative Action: Clay Odell advised TMRC members that the American College of Surgeons (ACS) website had a legislative action feature that allowed anyone to send email comments to their Senators, Representatives and Governor on a variety of legislative issues affecting trauma. The website is easy to use, and an effective way of supporting trauma legislation. The Internet address is www.facs.org.

III. Old Business

Item 1. Committee Re-appointments: Almost all the current TMRC members' three-year term of office have expired. Those members who represent an organization will need to arrange for their organization to send a letter to Commissioner Flynn re-nominating them to a new three-year term. Clay Odell will help coordinate this.

Item 2. Air Medical Notification Project: Will Owen, ALS Coordinator and Donna Clark from DHART have been working on a plan to implement early notification of air medical resources in the event of severe trauma, specifically Motor-Vehicle Crashes. The idea is to have the dispatch agency contact their air medical service automatically for certain high probability for severe trauma calls. This process is anticipated to increase the responding provider's awareness of the availability of air medical services and enable the air medical service to respond more quickly if they are needed. An evaluation study will be conducted in the Monadnock and Berlin areas.

IV. New Business

Item 1. Fall Trauma Conference: It is time to start preparing for the annual Trauma System Conference. The date of November 12, 2003, was selected. The TMRC has been very satisfied with the Inns at Mills Falls facility in Meredith and elected to have the conference there again this year. The conference committee will be Dr. Sutton, Janet Houston, Sue Prentiss and Clay Odell. This project will be supported by the EMS for Children Project at Dartmouth Medical School and the Bureau of EMS at the Department of Safety.

Item 2. System Performance Improvement Project: With the new research capability within the NHBEMS it is possible to more easily conduct research into the performance of the NH Trauma System. The members discussed a variety of issues and decided to look into patients with serious head injuries. Goals of the study would be to find out where head injured patients go in NH, and to gain experience in this type of project.

Data that would be desired are:

- Demographics of HI patients.
- What type of head injuries are commonly seen in NH? What severity?
- What are the most common mechanisms of injury?
- What field treatment is being done?
- Where are head trauma patients initially transported to, where do they end up and when?
- What kinds of outcomes can we determine? (i.e. length of stay, functional outcomes)

Clay and Fred will design the study and report back to the TMRC at the next meeting.

V. Public Comment

VI. Adjournment

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Trauma Medical Review Committee will be held at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy on June 18, 2003.